

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

It appears to me that Sinclair is directly disregarding established guidelines for non-partisanship. They are attempting to use their control of the media to directly affect the outcome of our presidential election. It is up to the FCC to ensure that companies or individuals licensed to use the public airwaves do so in accordance with state and federal laws and in the best interests of the public.

Thank you.